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CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER PC 7 B41J2/03 B41J2/175 B29C67/00 B41J2/025 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B41J B29C Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Ejectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) WPI Data, IBM-TDB, PAJ, EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1,20 X US 5 969 733 A (SHEINMAN YHOSHUA) 19 October 1999 (1999-10-19) cited in the application column 4, line 3 -column 7, line 27 US 5 459 497 A (MANNING HOWARD J ET AL) X 1-3 17 October 1995 (1995-10-17) column 2, line 42 -column 3, line 29 US 5 646 663 A (CLARK JAMES E ET AL) 1 X 8 July 1997 (1997-07-08) column 4, line 12 - line 19 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 06/11/2003 30 October 2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Van Oorschot, J



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